GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1976
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
REDUCING PRICES OF COMPUTERS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the majority of people do not have access to computers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any effective steps are being taken by the Government to reduce the prices of computers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a): It is fact that the majority of people in India do not have access to computers.

(b): The low rate of computer penetration is primarily on account of the high prices of computers in relation to per capita income.

(c) and (d): To reduce the prices of computers, customs and excise duties on computers, components and inputs are progressively being brought down. In the Budget, 2004-05, the excise duty of computers has further been reduced from 8% to 0%.